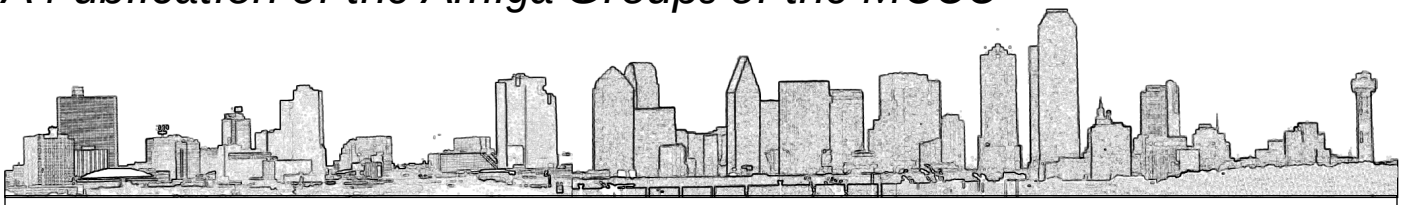
The AGM Connection

A Publication of the Amiga Groups of the MCCC



Fort Worth *March 1998* *Dallas*

Amiga's Rebirth

February 6th, 1998.
To our AMIGA Community
By Darreck Lisle, Events Coordinator AMIGA, Inc.

Friends, have you been hearing those cries of, "The end is near? The end is near!" on the Internet and in your favorite Amiga magazine? We've heard them too, but with a difference! You see, what we're hearing is that the end of the `bad old days' is here and the Amiga has a bright future ahead of it!

Now, we're not going to say this will be easy and it certainly won't happen overnight. There are many things that need to be done. Not all of these things are obvious and few of them are what you would call high visibility changes. What we've got to do is dig the cellar again and rebuild the foundations of the Amiga and the Amiga market.

You should already be seeing the results of this. For example:

- *There are over a dozen licensees of the Amiga making Amigas and Amiga clones. New models with new features have already shipped. In the coming months you'll be seeing a lot more about these machines and you'll learn about companies with names like DCE, Index Information Systems, Micronik, Quick Pak, Nova Sector. You'll be able to buy Amigas that are faster, and more powerful than ever before. As more of these machines get in the hands of the writers and editors out there, you'll find out about them.*

- *The Amiga games market is growing and taking control! Commodore determined the base configuration a game maker could count on for his audience. Now games like Myst, The Shadow of the Third Moon, Quake and others require CDROM, hard drives, and 4 megs or more of RAM. And guess what? The games are selling faster than ever because if a user didn't already have these features in their Amiga, they're getting their Amiga's upgraded!*

- *New software applications are coming out and old applications are getting upgraded. You can get Aladdin 4D 5.0, Tornado 3D 1.0, Electric Dreams, Wildfire, Directory Opus Magellan, ImageFX 3.0 and many, MANY, more titles.*

- *The Amiga trade shows are getting bigger and better than ever. Last year the Midwest Amiga Expo, St. Louis' Amiga '97 and Koln's Computer '97 set new attendance records for both Amiga dealer/company participation and for user attendance as well! This year we are looking forward to St. Louis' Amiga '98, International Amiga '98 in Toronto, Canada, AmiWest in Sacramento, the 1998 Midwest Amiga Expo (which promises to be twice as big yet again!), and shows again in the UK and Germany as well.*

Things aren't just happening within the Amiga community, no sir! Wired magazine and several news services have run stories about the Amiga revival. Mainstream computer magazines have been referring to 1998 as the year that alternative computer platforms, like the Amiga, will be gaining market share again. Amigas are still used in mission critical applications where reliability and integration has been the key. The Amiga goes to war in the M1 Abrams tank, up into space with the Space Shuttle and down to the ocean floor to help explore the wreck of the Titanic for James Cameron's film. Of course, nearly everyone's local television and cable station still has several Amigas in house for video work if you want something a bit closer to home!

You're going to be seeing a lot more of our work take form over this year. More new "Powered by Amiga" based machines. An upgraded AmigaOS. Coordinated developer resources and user group resources.

1998 is going to be a fun ride!

Darreck Lisle
Events Coordinator
Amiga, Inc.

Best of the BBS

- v CrossDOS 7.01 (CROSSDOS701.LZX) — Updates CrossDOS 7.0 to 7.01.
- v MCC Updates (Multiple files) — MCC stands for MUI Custom Class. There are a number of updates this month relating to date and time data. You need to stay current.
  MCC_TIMETEXT.LZX
  MCC_TIMESTRING.LZX
  MCC_TIME.LZX
  MCC_DATETEXT.LZX
  MCC_DATE.LZX
- v Print Drivers (Mulitple files) — Support for the new Hewlett Packard Deskjet 600, 670 and 870 series of printers.
- v Datatypes (Multiple files) — These are particularly useful if you have a graphics card:
  PICTDT43-763.LZX — Picture datatype. (24 bit)
  AIFF_DTC1.19.LZX — IFF files.
  ILBMDT44.6.LZX — ILBM files.
  AKJFIF43.160.LZX — For JPEG pictures.
  AKPNG43.160.LZX — For PNG pictures.
  ANIMATION4105.LZX — for animations.
  PCD-DT43.1.LZX — for photo CD's.
  ADLJPG43.155.LZX — For lossless JPEG pictures.
- v Photo Album (PHOTOALBUM35.LZX) — Show pics as thumbnails. (For CyberGraphX or AGA)
- v CyberShow (CYBERSHOW85.LZX) — Powerful picture viewer for CyberGraphX or AGA.

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Address Correction Requested

March Calendar

March 3 — MCCC Board of Director's Meeting
7:30 pm — Bill Raecke's Place

March 10 — Amiga By-The-Loop Chapter
7:30 pm — Bell Helicopter Training Facility

March 19 — Amiga North Dallas Chapter
7:30 pm — Addison Road north of Westgrove

Newsletter Deadline — March 28, 7:00 am

Membership Watch

Expired February, 1998

Douglas Gaudin
Bill Scott
Rodney Wood

Expiring March, 1998

Crystal Eikanger
Brad Jackson
Mary Kelly
Tom Ryan
Michael Turner
Sean Wilson